

Southeastern Transportation Research, Innovation, Development and Education Center



Green Modes of Travel



CIVL 642 Public Health, Physical Activity, and Design of the Built Environment







Green modes of travel

- 1. Mode choice & multimodal environments
- 2. Transit oriented development
- 3. Walking and walkable communities
- 4. Intro to Charleston elements of PA Plan



What is Green Transportation? - Green transportation focuses on:

- i.) efficient and effective use of resources,
- ii.) modification of transport structure to accommodate green modes,
- iii.) making healthier travel choices for individuals and communities.
- **1. Green Transportation Modes** Pedestrians, Bicycles, E-bicycles, mopeds, motorcycles, hybrid cars, electric cars, multiple occupant vehicles, HOV, public transit, bus, train, tram, people movers.
- **2. Benefits of Green Transportation** less pollution, more economical, improved fuel efficiency, more sustainable, better for environment, efficient use of transportation infrastructure, improved health, improved livability.
- 3. Pros & Cons of Green Modes: https://greenliving.lovetoknow.com/low-impact-living/what-are-most-earth-friendly-transportation-methods
- 4. 10 Ideas for a Green Transportation Infrastructure:
 https://science.howstuffworks.com/environmental/green-science/10-ideas-green-transportation10.htm

Fundamentals of Mode Choice

- 1.) Travel demand forecasting, (refer to: Transportation Demand Modeling slides)
 - 4 Step Process: 1. Trip Generation, 2. Trip Distribution, 3. Mode Split, 4. Trip Assignment
- 2.) Transportation Planning (refer to: Transportation Planning slides)
- 3.) **Benefits** of Building a Multimodal transportation network provide mobility for:
 - Youths 10-20 (10-30% of population).
 - Seniors who do not or should not drive (5-15%).
 - Adults unable to drive due to disability (3-5%).
 - Lower income households burdened by vehicle expenses (15-30%).
 - Law-abiding drinkers, & impaired people (small but important demand to serve).
 - Community visitors who lack a vehicle or driver's license.
 - People who want to walk or bike for enjoyment and health.
 - Drivers who want to avoid chauffeuring burdens.
 - Residents who want reduced congestion, accidents and pollution emissions

Multimodal Transportation Planning (also ref ALR slides)

Table 1 Impacts Considered and Overlooked

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Usually Considered	Often Overlooked
	Generated traffic and induced travel impacts
	Downstream congestion
	Impacts on non-motorized travel (barrier effects)
	Parking costs
	Vehicle ownership and mileage-based depreciation costs.
	Project construction traffic delays
	Indirect environmental impacts
	Strategic land use impacts (sprawl versus smart growth)
Financial costs to governments	Transportation diversity and equity impacts
Vehicle operating costs (fuel, tolls, tire wear)	Per-capita crash risk
Travel time (reduced congestion)	Public fitness and health impacts
Per-mile crash risk	Travelers' preferences for alternative modes (e.g., for walking
Project construction environmental impacts	and cycling)

Green Transportation Hierarchy

- 1. Pedestrians
- 2. Bicycles
- 3. Public transportation
- 4. Service and freight vehicles
- 5. Taxis
- Multiple occupant vehicles (carpools)
- 7. Single occupant vehicles

The Green Transportation Hierarchy favors more affordable and efficient (in terms of space, energy and other costs) modes.

Consider all significant impacts, including long-term, indirect and non-market impacts such as equity and land use changes. This should at least include:

- Congestion
- Roadway costs
- Parking costs
- Consumer costs
- Traffic accidents
- Quality of access for non-drivers

- Energy consumption
- Pollution emissions
- Equity impacts
- Physical fitness and health
- Land use development impacts
- Community livability



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https://www.vtpi.org/multimodal_planning.pdf



Transportation Alternatives

http://www.transalt.org/

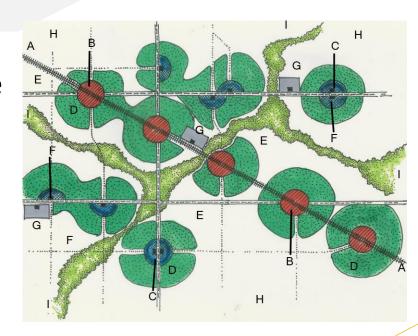
Estimated annual **hidden costs** borne by New York City non-motorists in 1990 were:

- \$2.9b for health and property damage from air pollution,
- \$2.5b for accidents,
- \$2.0b for appropriation of land,
- \$1.4b for noise,
- \$1.1b for time lost in congestion,
- \$300m for military costs allocable to defending oil supplies,
- \$300m present worth of future climate change costs,
- \$200m for damage to buildings and infrastructure from vibration from heavy trucks.

B. Ketcham and C. Komanoff, "Should Drivers Pay More?," Auto-Free Press, Nov/Dec 1992.

Factors Driving Trend toward Transit Oriented Dev.

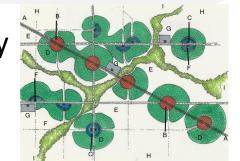
- 1. Rapidly growing, mind-numbing traffic congestion nation-wide
- 2. Growing distaste for suburbia and strip development
- 3. Growing desire for quality urban lifestyle
- 4. Growing desire for more walkable lifestyles away from traffic
- 5. Changes in family structures: more singles, empty-nesters, etc
- 6. Growing national support for Smart Growth
- 7. New focus of Federal policy (\$16.6m pilot project)





Components of Transit Oriented Development

- 1. Walkable design with pedestrian as the highest priority
- 2. Train station as prominent feature of town center
- 3. Public square fronting train station

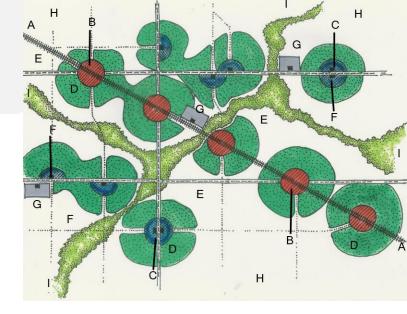


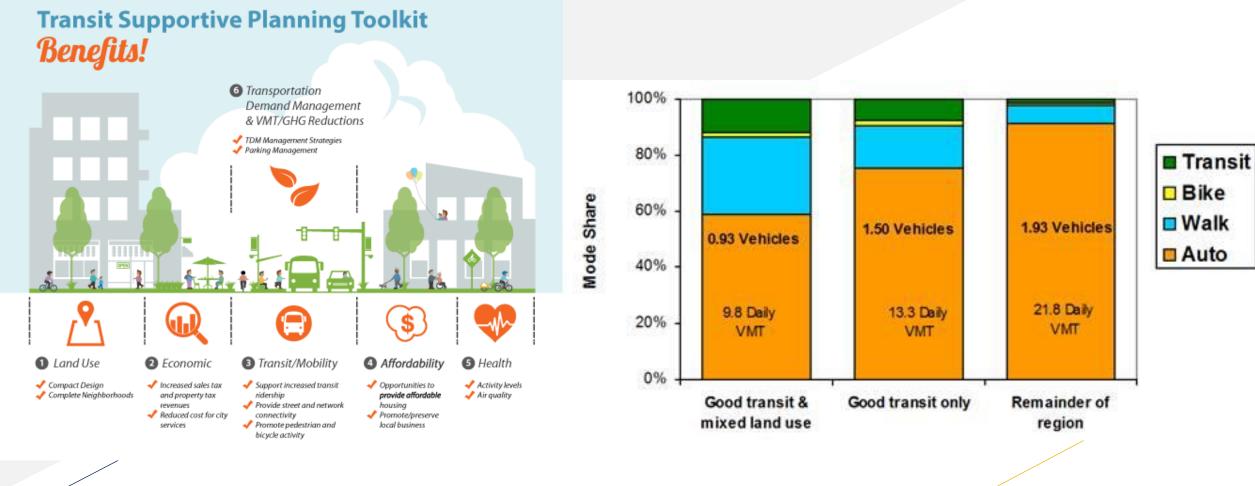


- 4. Regional node containing mixture of uses in close proximity (office, residential, retail, civic)
- 5. High density, walkable district within 10-minute walk circle surrounding train station
- 6. Collector support transit systems including streetcar, light rail, and buses, etc
- 7. Designed to include the easy use of bicycles and scooters as daily support transport
- 8. Large ride-in bicycle parking areas within stations
- 9. Bikeshare rental system and bikeway network integrated into stations
- 10. Reduced & managed parking inside 10-minute walk circle around town center / train station
- 11. Specialized retail at stations serving commuters & locals including cafes, grocery, retail, etc.

Benefits Transit Oriented Development

- 1. Higher quality of life with better places to live, work, and play
- 2. Greater mobility with ease of moving around
- 3. Increased transit ridership
- 4. Reduced traffic congestion, car accidents and injuries
- 5. Reduced household spending on transportation, resulting in more affordable housing
- 6. Healthier lifestyle with more walking, and less stress
- 7. Higher, more stable property values
- 8. Increased foot traffic and customers for area businesses
- 9. Greatly reduced dependence on foreign oil, reduced pollution and environmental damage
- 10. Reduced incentive to sprawl, increased incentive for compact development
- 11.Less expensive than building roads and sprawl
- 12. Enhanced ability to maintain economic competitiveness





Los Angles Metro, 2019

https://www.metro.net/projects/tod-toolkit/

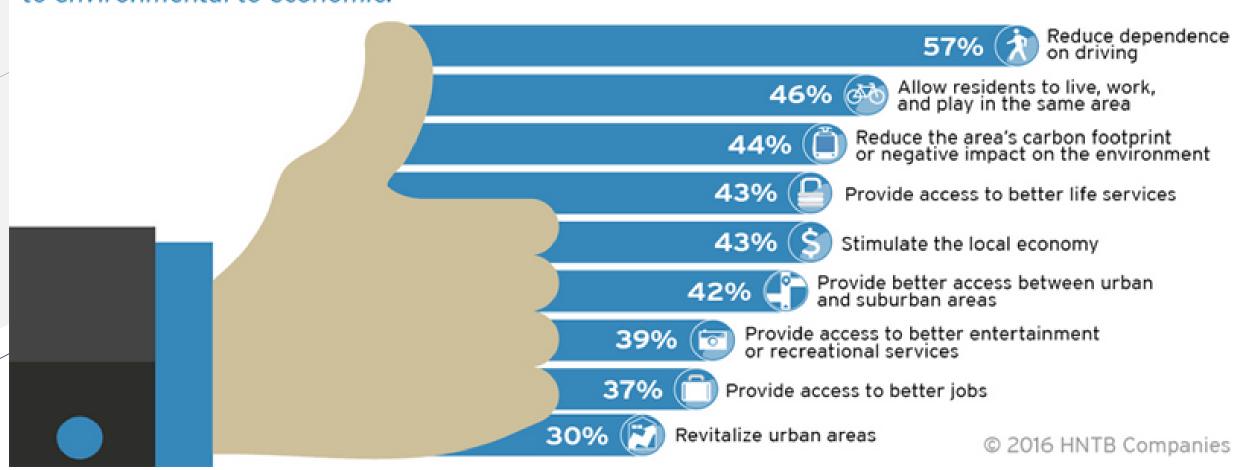
Victoria Transport Policy Institute, 2019

https://www.vtpi.org/tdm/tdm45.htm

Benefits of Transit Oriented Development

BENEFITS OF TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT

Americans believe transit oriented development provides an array of benefits ranging from lifestyle to environmental to economic.



Elements of Walkable Communities

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Elements of Walkable Communities

- 1. An array of differing destinations within 5-10min walk from home and work (walk score)
- 2. Streets design to enable and encourage walking
- 3. Pedestrian-Friendly Design with safety in mind
- 4. Convenient and well marked pedestrian crosswalks, including mid-block crossings
- 5. Street lighting for safe and secure walking environment
- 6. Street size (narrower) and block size
- 7. Pedestrian-Friendly Design to Make Walking Pleasant
- 8. Pedestrian-Friendly Design to Make Walking Efficient
- 9. Access to Public Transit
- 10. Traffic Calming features that slow motor vehicle traffic down
- 11. Buffers, landscaping, trees for shade, wayfinding, sense of place and amenities.
- 12. Enhanced ability to maintain economic competitiveness



US most Walkable Communities

Major Metropolitan Areas

Boston, Massachusetts

Chicago, Illinois

Minneapolis, Minnesota

New York, New York

San Francisco, California

Seattle, Washington

Washington, D.C.

Medium & Smaller Cities/Towns

Eureka Springs, Arkansas

Clayton, California

Boulder, Colorado

Glenwood Springs, Colorado

Dunedin, Florida

Savannah, Georgia

Naperville, Illinois

Portland, Maine

Annapolis, Maryland

Orion, Michigan

Duluth, Minnesota

Lincoln, Nebraska

Exeter, New Hampshire

Chautauqua, New York

Oakwood, Ohio

Waynesville, Ohio

Xenia, Ohio

Portland, Oregon

Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Kingsport, Tennessee

Austin, Texas

Burlington, Vermont

Vancouver, Washington

Madison, Wisconsin







America's Walking, PBS, høst Mark Fenton highlights great walking designations across US.







Overarching Priorities + 9 Societal Sectors w/ targeted strategies

Transportation, Land Use & Community Design, pg 48

- 1. Active design principles into land-use, transportation, community, & economic dev.
- 2. Mixed-use developments that place common destinations within walking and bicycling distance of most residents
- 3. Greater investment in bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure & public transit
- 4. Institutionalize the collection of data to inform policy and to measure the impacts of active transportation on physical activity, population health, and health equity
- 5. Implement initiatives to **encourage, reward, and require** more walking, bicycling, and transit use for routine transportation

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Thank You.

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